

8th Grade Informational/Explanatory Writing Prompt

Directions to the Student

After you finish your prewriting activity, write your paper in the space provided. You may use a standard dictionary, thesaurus, or grammar handbook to check your paper for correctness.

Please refer to the writer's checklist as you are writing your response to the prompt.

Writer's Checklist

- ☐ My paper has an effective beginning, middle, and end.
- ☐ My paper includes effective use of paragraphing.
- ☐ My paper stays on the topic.
- ☐ My paper flows smoothly from one idea to another.
- ☐ My paper contains a strong controlling idea.
- ☐ My paper includes specific and relevant details, reasons, and examples.
- ☐ My paper uses precise and vivid language.
- ☐ My paper contains sentences that are clear and varied in structure.
- ☐ My paper includes correct grammar/usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.

Writing Prompt

Imagine your school has decided each student will volunteer several hours to help improve the community. Think about what work you could do and how this effort would make a difference to others.

Write an informative/explanatory essay to your teacher explaining what work you could do to improve your community. Include facts, details, and precise language as they are appropriate in your writing.